

**Department of Public Works and Transportation
Montgomery County, Maryland**

DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES



Recycling poster created by students at Chevy Chase Elementary School

***MONTHLY REPORT
FEBRUARY 2001***



Printed on Recycled and Recyclable Paper

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OVERVIEW

Tonnage at a Glance

The following table shows key material flows during the current month, fiscal year to date (FY Total), and current calendar month in the two prior fiscal years. (County fiscal year 2001 began July 1, 2000.)

FACILITY	Feb FY 01	FY 01 Total	Feb FY 00	Feb FY 99
Materials Recovery Facility ⁽¹⁾	5,733 tons	52,566 tons	5,724 tons	4,170 tons
Brunswick Landfill Facility ⁽⁴⁾	10,847 tons	96,091 tons	8,361 tons	11,727 tons
American Ash Recycling ⁽²⁾	2,840 tons	22,922 tons	2,974 tons	N/A
Resource Recovery Facility ⁽³⁾	36,835 tons	342,082 tons	36,486 tons	38,785 tons
Yard Trim Compost Facility	960 tons	39,294 tons	0 tons	6140 tons

⁽¹⁾For FY00, MRF tons reported are outgoing. For previous years, incoming was reported.

⁽²⁾Tons shipped out to ash recycling facility during the indicated period. All tons so shipped are recycled.

⁽³⁾RRF tonnage refers to tons burned (processed). Waste shipped from the Transfer Station but not burned is in the pit and is not included in the tonnage presented here. For FY00, these tonnages are preliminary, with adjustments made in the December and June monthly reports.

⁽⁴⁾This category only addresses waste sent to the landfill for disposal. It does not include rubble that is recycled at Clean Rock or other locations.

⁽⁵⁾ **Figures for January FY00 were 205 tons and 469 tons for January FY99. February FY99 figure was high due to brush from the winter-storm damage of trees that year.**

Revenue Analysis and Systems Evaluation – During February, program staff continued to fill-in successfully for previously vacant budget manager (position filled this month) and assisted new budget manager in orienting to the job. Provided internal review of monthly tonnage numbers, and continued compiling data from six-month hauler reports received. Made further changes in Rate Model per OMB requests in connection with the FY02 budget. Prepared text documentation for the Fiscal Health Spreadsheet. Assisted outside financial consultant in independent review of the Rate Model and Fiscal Health Spreadsheets. Coordinated Consultant Engineers review of Long Term Facilities. Prepared briefing materials on various topics. Handled routine level of solid waste billing inquiries. Prepared quarterly revenue review. Completed most remaining nonresidential appeals. Continued cost/revenue analysis on the variable rate options. Developed inter-agency work group for new hauler billing system and began evaluating software options. Continued updating billing database.

CITIZEN COMMITTEES

Facilities Implementation Group – The next schedule FIG meeting is March 20, 2001, at 7:30 p.m. at the Gothic Barn. DEP will discuss their work plan and their budget recommendations for the facilities.

Sugarloaf Citizens Association – The County will meet with SCA for their semi-annual meeting on March 22, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. at the Gothic Barn.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – SWAC met Tuesday, February 6 at the Executive Office Building, 6th Floor Conference Room. Twelve SWAC members, three County staff and one guest were in attendance. County staff briefed the committee on Waste System Program Development. The new and appointed SWAC members were confirmed by the County Council.

COLLECTIONS

Refuse – Refuse collections went as scheduled with no disruptions to service due to snow or Holiday confusion (President's Day). We placed the Holiday schedule on the front page of the web site and this may have been of assistance.

Recycling- We are in a slow period for collection weights, with mixed paper being at a seasonal low point. Mixed paper tonnage for the four-week period of January 22, 2001, through February 16, 2001, was 9.78 lbs. per household. We are closely monitoring all mixed paper weights and are developing a weekly chart to show the results by area of the County.

Contractor Performance – During the month of February 2001, there were only five complaints not resolved by the contractors. The County corrected all of these issues. The number of complaints received in February 2001 totaled 437. This represents a 45.2% increase from February 2000, which had 301 complaints.

Enforcement Actions – For the month of February 2001, nine citations were issued in the amount of \$4,500 for violations of the County Solid Waste Laws. Four citations were issued for not having a current collector's tag attached to the vehicle in the amount of \$2,000. Three citations were issued for collecting solid waste before 7AM in the amount of \$1,500. Two citations were issued for not having a suitable tight fitting cover in the amount of \$1,000. Seventeen NOV's were issued for violations of Chapter 48. Eight NOV's were issued for not having a suitable tight-fitting cover in place. Seven NOV's were for depositing solid waste on the property of another. One NOV was for leaving a vehicle running unattended. One NOV for failure to store solid waste in a vermin-proof and waterproof container equipped with a tight-fitting lid. Also a warrant was served, with the help of a number of Inspectors, Supervisors and other departments, on a property in the Dawsonville area that has accumulated an extremely large amount of solid waste. Additional details will be coming soon.

Customer Service – For the month of February 2001, there were 4,914 incoming calls with 341 follow-up calls as a quality control check. Ten miscellaneous services were also handled by the Customer Service Staff. There were 906 blue bins delivered for the month of February and 197 e-mail requests handled by the Customer Service Staff.

Volunteer Activities- We have completed the project involving gas stations that allow residents to drop off oil or anti-freeze without cost. This information is now available to our Customer Service Staff to assist residents that call. This information will also be available on our web site.

Volunteer staff are now working on surveys in the mixed paper toter pilot areas. This is the preparation work for the pilot programs in their planning stages.

WASTE MINIMIZATION

Drop-off Programs – The Use-It-Again guide will soon be available on the Internet. Creative Connections was awarded the contract for printing services.

The new computer recycling program allowing receipt of computers and computer-related equipment seven days a week will begin on March 12. In the interim, the County has continued to accept computer equipment in February. Approximately six tons of computers were recycled in February.

Department of Environmental Protection's Home Composting and Source Reduction Activities- Composting (and Vermiculture composting) presentations were made to Holly Hill and Great Falls Garden Clubs.

Began work at Rock Creek Elementary School on an environmental/outdoor education trail with numerous interpretive stations, including: decomposition station; several large compost bins constructed from pallets, which will handle all of the leaves and other yard and garden trimmings from the school grounds; worm garden; mulching displays; and related environmental plantings, such as groundcover alternatives to turf, and bog gardens (for bioretention).

Display advertising in the Gazette and Journal Newspapers continues, as does the Green Man column in the Gazette. New composting ads are still in development, several of which will be used as limited print-run posters: the first ad in the series will address "compost critters" and the proper way to compost kitchen scraps, in light of recent concerns over growing rodent populations.

Work has begun on an Earth Day Action Kit for release in late March/early April, including a press release and other outreach to identify events and training classes taking place on or around Earth Day. In addition to helpful facts on energy and water conservation, pollution prevention, green purchasing and indoor/outdoor air quality issues, the Action Kit itself will contain composting, environmental lawn and garden care, and grasscycling information.

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAMS

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – In February about 55 citizens came to the Transfer Station to drop off household hazardous waste. The next scheduled HHW event will be on March 11, 2001, at the Transfer Station.

Small Quantity Generator (Ecowise) Program- One Ecowise event was held on February 8. Eight companies attended.

AIR PERMITS AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

Resource Recovery Facility (RRF): CEM Tracking of RRF Operations – In February the Continuous Emissions Monitoring System (CEMS) indicated that all three units were operating at 8:30 AM. Unit #2 was brought offline at 10 PM on February 1 because of low pit inventory. Since then, Unit#1 and Unit#3 have been operating at nearly 100% load continuously. On February 21 Unit #1 was brought offline at 11PM because of broken grates and a faulty bearing on the ID fan. The bearing and grate bars were replaced and other minor repairs were completed by 5PM on February 22; the Unit was brought back online. Since then Unit#1 and Unit#2 have been operating continuously. No equipment malfunctions affected unit operations or stack emissions in February.

Reports containing results from the November 2000 stack tests were placed in the libraries (Rockville, Germantown and Poolesville). RRF Operations and Emissions Reports for the fourth quarter of 2000 were also placed in the three libraries.

On February 15 technical staff from the Maryland Department of Environment (MDE) conducted a meeting with DSWS and Ogden staff to discuss the Title V Draft Air Permit. MDE indicated that the Title V Air Permit will incorporate permit conditions from the PSD Approval, Permit to Construct and the Permit to Operate (whichever conditions are more stringent), issued by MDE. The Agency also indicated that a copy of the Draft Permit would be mailed to the Northeast Authority in late March. DSWS will receive a copy for review.

In the first week of February the set of 10 CEM CD-ROMs was updated to include CEMS data through January 31, 2001. Copies of the CD-ROMs were placed in the Rockville and Poolesville libraries and distributed to DSWS staff, SWAC and FIG.

Oaks Landfill Energy Recovery Facility: Leachate Evaporation Technology –

In February, the Leachate Thermal Treatment System (LTTS) operated 75% of the time, evaporating, on average, eight gallons per minute. Bentech is continuing negotiations with electric companies for implementing an electricity-generating project. DSWS understands that the firm is currently discussing with Southern Energy. The negotiation process may take several months.

Yard Trim Composting Facility: Consent Agreement Evaluation –No further communication was received from MDE for scheduling a meeting to discuss future actions. Under the Consent Agreement, the facility will have to comply with the Discharge permit limits from June 1, 2000, until the Consent Agreement ends June 1, 2001.

Facilities Implementation Group (FIG) Air Quality Subcommittee - As per recommendations of the Air Quality Committee, non-air media monitoring is planned for the summer of 2001. Two potential sites for sample collection will be visited in spring 2001: at the maximum impact location and the other at a control location. As per the committee's recommendations, hay, milk and fish (if available) will be sampled for analysis.

Contractual Work – ENSR is continuing to analyze the stack emissions data received from Ogden's contractors for the update of the RRF Health Risk Study. Weston is finalizing the Report on the data sampled on the walls of the RRF and Transfer Station (T/S).

RECYCLING

Public Outreach –Work is continuing on the new awareness campaign on recycling. This campaign will focus on the fact that everybody's day-to-day recycling efforts really do amount to a lot. The campaign will also answer the question that we are frequently asked: Whether the materials that people put out in their recycling bins are actually recycled. The campaign will include print, television, radio, and transit advertising.

There will be a pre-proposal conference on the new RFP for Recycling/Solid Waste Public Outreach and Education March 16, 2001.

The update to the 50 Percent Recycling Plan is being drafted.

Also, DSWS continues working closely with the County's Division of Facilities and Services, Montgomery County Public Schools, several property management companies, and others to improve recycling awareness and activity. Staff is involved in many activities and events in the community to increase recycling awareness.

Commercial Recycling and Waste Reduction-Staff continued to deliver customized service to the business sector. Staff has mailed the annual report form to all businesses with 100 or more employees, and the shorter recycling report form to all other businesses. Many completed forms are being faxed and mailed in by businesses, and the information is helpful in documenting information about underreported and unreported recycling. It is also useful in identifying those businesses that need assistance.

As a result of the mailing, there has been a significant increase in the number of phone calls from businesses with inquiries about the business recycling requirements or the report forms.

In addition, the media campaign reminding businesses in the County of the regulatory requirements has begun airing. This campaign will continue until April. Another campaign, explaining what the SORRT Program can do for businesses, is in the initial phase of development. The campaign is generating many inquiries.

Multi-Family Recycling- Staff continued to perform on-site evaluations of recycling programs, and work with property managers and residents to provide assistance and support. Staff continued to assist properties that were not in compliance with the County's regulation.

Nomination forms for the Montgomery County recycling week have been mailed out to all property management companies. Work on the newsletter and telephone survey continues with completion expected in March. Planning on the property managers/property management companies' workshops is underway with workshops expected to be held during the spring.

Mixed Paper Recycling- Mixed paper is a major subject included in the new multi-media advertising campaign. Staff continues monitoring the amounts of mixed paper being recycled in each area, to troubleshoot and provide additional education to those low performance areas. Several initiatives are underway to serve under-performing areas, including developing and distributing additional educational materials in English as well as other languages, having community events where staff can provide additional recycling outreach and educational materials, etc.

PILOT PROGRAMS

Mixed Paper Pilot – There are two pilot programs in the planning stages to encourage more mixed paper recycling. Pilot One will add approximately 850 toters to an entire route in the Potomac Area. The purchase of these toters is now in the procurement process. Pilot two will address the lack of recycling from 157 townhouses in an area of Germantown called Destiny Road. We have been tracking all recycling being generated by this group and they are only producing about 5 pounds of mixed paper and 1.5 lbs. of commingle per household. Talks are underway with the residents to determine what methods would increase participation.

Tubgrinding Pilot – Tubgrinding of screened reject material began on August 22, 2000, and ended at the end of September with 5,205 yards of material being processed. At the end of February, there were 12,376 yards of material to be processed. Processing of the material began on February 1, 2001. About 200 yards of material is being produced daily.

Ash Recycling Pilot – Ash recycling continues without incident.

FACILITY ACTIVITIES

Resource Recovery Facility –On February 1st three units were operated to perform the PEPCO/PJM required Winter Generation Capacity testing. After completion of the testing, unit #2 was removed from service and the Facility operated with two units for the remainder of the month. On February 21st unit #1 was taken off line to repair fan bearings and replace several broken grate bars. It was returned to service on the 22nd.

Scheduled outage work began on unit #2 and will be completed in early March.

There were no minimum or maximum utility generation alerts.

There were no reportable air or water quality environmental excursions in the month.

The following reports were submitted:

- January Water Supply Report to MDE.
- Calendar 2000 tonnage report to MDE.
- Calendar 2000 Sara Title III report to MDE, LEPC and local officials.
- Updated County CD-ROM's emission data.
- Reported to MDE and the County regarding oil spills on Feb 27 & 28. No off-site impacts occurred.

MDE personnel inspected the on-site package wastewater treatment plant. The Sewage Sludge Utilization Permit was received from MDE.

Ogden's environmental engineer was present each week during the month. Ogden, Authority and County personnel met with MDE staff to discuss the status of the Title V permit application.

A meeting was held among representatives from Ogden, County, Authority and PEPCO to prepare for the changes resulting from electric generation de-regulation and the sale of PEPCO's Dickerson Generating Station to Mirant.

Two tours were provided during the month for four citizens from Boyds and five delegates from Bulgaria.

Materials Recovery Facility- Approximately 1,366 tons of commingled material were shipped out after processing, and approximately 4,366 tons of mixed paper were loaded out and transferred to the Office Paper Systems processing facility.

The contractor continued with the construction of the expansion of the building.

The acceptance test for the mixed paper facility was conducted, and a report is being finalized.

Work continues to update the presentation information in the Recycling Center conference room.

Oaks Landfill - The Phase II closure contractor, Barbella Environmental Technology, Inc. resolved all outstanding punch list items with the County. A dollar settlement was reached on the few minor items that were not completed. The project is now complete. Trees that were installed were all guaranteed for a year and will be inspected in the spring, and any dead trees will be replaced.

Cherry Hill Construction, the contractor for the Phase I closure construction, did not work in February because the weather was not suitable for remaining items. A couple weeks of finishing work including final grading and compaction of perimeter roads and final grading and seeding of topsoil in the last construction area are scheduled to be performed in March provided the site is sufficiently dry for the work to be performed.

The Post-Closure Care Plan for the 30-Year post-closure period at the Oaks Landfill is under review by the MDE.

Work is continuing on the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for the Oaks Landfill.

Gude Landfill – Stream stabilization and erosion repairs were performed in two areas where a stream adjacent to the fill area had started eroding towards monitoring wells and the fill area. Planting of live stakes that will develop into trees will be performed in March.

A contractor is preparing a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan for the Gude landfill.

Transfer Station- During February, Ogden Martin shipped via rail 36,108 tons of processible waste from the Transfer Station to the Resource Recovery Facility, 522 fewer tons than shipped in February 2000.

Litter was collected by MES along Shady Grove Road from Route 355 to the intersection with Muncaster Mill Road.

Curbs were repaired around the facility.

The standby generator was turned over to DSWS by Facilities and Services.

Ejector pump repairs were completed.

Some of the roll-up doors were repaired along with access gates to the tipping floor. A handicapped entrance door was installed at the County Administration Building.

Security gates at the exit from the tipping floor were repaired.

Site 2 Landfill Properties – The second phase of work for the Chiswell farm was initiated with a meeting between URS Corporation (the engineer/architect retained by DSWS) and DSWS staff.

Solid Waste Facilities Master Plan – a second draft of a ten-year Master Plan expenditure is being prepared for the T&E Committee meeting in March.

Yard Trim Compost Facility – Nine hundred and sixty (960) tons of leaves were received at the Dickerson yard trim facility for composting. One thousand six hundred and eighty-seven (1,687) yards of Leafgro were sold in bulk.

Bagging Operation - In February, Leafgro was produced at the facility, but 13,875 bags were shipped to distributors.

Linden Farm Renovations - Under the signed bagging agreement, the County is to renovate the Feed Barn and Bank Barn by June 2001. A contract with Dean Fitzgerald is expected to be signed in March to start the renovation work. Work is to be completed 160 days after the contract is signed.

Out-of-County Haul

Brunswick County, Virginia - During the month of February, about 8,399 tons of ash residue and 2,448 tons of nonprocessable waste were transported to the County's dedicated disposal cell at the Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc. Landfill in Brunswick County, Virginia. About 1,129 tons of rubble was recycled at Clean Rock.

York, Pennsylvania

During the month of February, 2,840 tons of ash residue (back hauled by rail from the RRF) were shipped from the Transfer Station to American Ash Recycling in York, Pennsylvania to be recycled into aggregate.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Important Telephone Numbers

General information on solid waste- 240-777-6400

Customer Service- 240-777-6410

Transfer Station- 301-840-2370

Materials Recovery Facility- 301-417-1447- Maryland Environmental Service

Resource Recovery Facility- 240-777-6439 County Office
301-916-3031 Ogden Martin Systems of Montgomery

Yard Trim Compost Facility- 301-428-8185

Internet for DSWS - www.MCRecycles.org

Note: All comments, questions, and suggestions on the contents of this report should be addressed to:

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SOLID WASTE FACTS IN A NUTSHELL

<i>TOPIC OR FACILITY</i>	
Current Recycling Rate in Montgomery County	36.5%
Recycling Goal	50%
New Recycling Programs Scheduled for FY 01	Residential Mixed Paper Collection is now available countywide
Resource Recovery Facility (RRF)	Guaranteed Capacity = 85% of 1800 tpd on an annual basis (558,450 tons/yr).
Yard Trim Composting Facility (DCF)	Operations Limited to Receipt of 77,000 tons/year under Sugarloaf Settlement Agreement. FY00 tons received- 58,602
# Residences receiving trash collection by County contractors	83,521
# Residences receiving collection of recyclables in blue bins and yard waste collection	198,422
Term of out-of-county waste transportation and disposal contract with Brunswick Waste Management Facility, Inc.	June 19, 1997 through June 30, 2012 with an option for a five-year renewal. (Service started on October 20, 1997.)

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AAR	American Ash Recycling, Inc.
APC	Air Pollution Control
ASME	American Society of Mechanical Engineers
BFI	Browning Ferris Industries
CEMS	Continuous Emissions Monitoring System
CIP	Capital Improvements Program
COG	Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
CSX	Chesapeake Transportation Systems
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DFS	Division of Facilities and Services
DSWS	Division of Solid Waste Services
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
FIG	Facilities Implementation Group
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration
HHW	Household Hazardous Waste
IFB	Invitation For Bid
LTTS	Leachate Thermal Treatment System
MCPS	Montgomery County Public Schools
MDE	Maryland Department of Environment
MES	Maryland Environmental Service
mg/l	milligrams per liter
MNCPPC	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
MWh	Mega Watt hours
NOV	Notice of Violation
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NTP	Notice to Proceed
OLAC	Oaks Landfill Advisory Commission
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PEPCO	Potomac Electric Power Company
PSA	Public Service Announcement
RFP	Request for Proposal
ROL	Reduced Operating Level
RRF	Resource Recovery Facility
SCA	Sugarloaf Citizens Association
SORRT	Smart Organizations Reduce and Recycle Tons
SWAC	Solid Waste Advisory Committee
TCLP	Toxic Characteristic Leaching Procedure
TPD	Tons Per Day
T.R.R.A.C.	Think Reduce and Recycle at Apartments and Condominiums
WM	Waste Management
YTCF	Yard Trim Composting Facility